

Testimony on SB 42 Health Services Cost Review Commission – Duties and Reports - Revisions

House Health and Government Operations Committee
March 16, 2020

POSITION: SUPPORT AS AMENDED

The Community Behavioral Health Association of Maryland is the professional organization for providers of community-based mental health and substance use disorder treatment services. Our members serve the majority of the almost-300,000 children and adults who access care through the public behavioral health system. We provide outpatient treatment, residential and day programs, case management and assertive community treatment (ACT), employment supports, and crisis intervention.

We support this bill as amended by the Senate because it includes language agreed to by the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) and providers. The consensus language requires the HSCRC to include in its report to the Governor, the Health Secretary, and the General Assembly information on the status of hospital partnerships with community-based organizations, an important component of the Total Cost of Care Model. It also requires the inclusion of any negative consequences of the all-payor contract as reported to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). This information will provide stakeholders with a more comprehensive understanding of the status of the all-payor contract.

We urge a favorable report on SB 42 as amended by the Senate.